

## FURBEARERS

If you intend to trap, please pick up a copy of the 2004-05/2005-06 trapping brochure at your local IDFG regional office.

### IT IS UNLAWFUL

- To trap without a valid trapper's license.
- To destroy or damage a muskrat or beaver house.
- To trap in or on a muskrat house.
- To destroy, disturb, or remove any traps belonging to others.
- To use any part of a domestic or wild origin game bird, game animal, game fish, or protected nongame wildlife for bait in trapping furbearing animals, unprotected wildlife, or predatory wildlife.
- To set, place or stake any trap or snare during the closed season.
- To possess a *live* furbearer taken from the wild.
- To hunt wildlife, except raccoon, by the aid of a spotlight, flashlight, or artificial light of any kind.
- To buy furs without a valid fur buyers license.

### Hunting, Trapping, Fishing—LICENSE REQUIREMENT.

No person shall hunt, trap, or fish for or take any wild animal, bird or fish, of this state, without first having procured a license.

### METHODS OF TAKE—TRAPPING

**Definition of Bait:** Bait is any animal parts; except bleached bones or liquid scent is not considered bait.

**Furbearing Animals:** No person shall take beaver, marten, mink, muskrat, or otter by any method other than trapping. In Valley County and portions of Adams County, red fox may be taken only by trapping.

**Trapping:** No person trapping furbearing animals or predatory or unprotected wildlife shall:

- Use for bait, any part of a domestic or wild origin game bird, game animal, game fish, or protected nongame wildlife.
- Use live animals as bait or an attractant.
- Use any set within thirty (30) feet of any visible bait.
- Use a dirt hole set with bait unless the person ensures that the bait remains covered at all times to protect raptors and other meat-eating birds from being caught accidentally.

**Hunting:** In addition to predatory or unprotected wildlife, the following furbearers may be hunted: badger, bobcat, raccoon, and red fox.

### METHODS OF TAKE—HUNTING

**Furbearing Animals:** No person shall take beaver, marten, mink, muskrat or otter by any method other than

trapping. In Valley County and portions of Adams County, red fox may be taken only by trapping.

**Hunting:** No person hunting permissible furbearing animals (badger, bobcat, raccoon and red fox) or predatory or unprotected wildlife shall:

- Hunt with any weapon the possession of which is prohibited by state or federal law.
- Hunt any furbearing animal, except raccoon, with or by the aid of artificial light.
- No person hunting raccoon at night shall:
  - Hunt from a motorized vehicle.
  - Use any light attached to any motor vehicle.
  - Hunt on private land without obtaining written permission from the landowner or lessee.

**Wounding — Retrieving:** No person shall wound or kill any furbearer by hunting without making a reasonable effort to retrieve it and reduce it to possession. Every furbearer wounded by hunting and reduced to possession shall be killed immediately. No person shall possess a live furbearer taken from the wild.

### TRAPS

**Checking Traps:** No person shall place snares or traps for furbearing animals, predatory or unprotected wildlife, EXCEPT pocket gophers, most species of ground squirrels, and other unprotected rodents, without visiting every trap or snare once every 72 hours and removing any catch therein.

Trappers acting under authority of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services are exempt from this rule.

**Removing Trapped Animals of Another:** No person shall remove wildlife from the trap or snare of another EXCEPT licensed trappers with written permission from the owner.

**Release of Non-Target Catches:** All non-target species caught alive shall be released immediately. **NON-TARGET SPECIES ARE DEFINED AS ANY SPECIES CAUGHT FOR WHICH THE SEASON IS CLOSED.** If difficulty is encountered releasing a trapped fisher, wolverine, lynx, or mountain lion, please contact IDFG immediately for assistance.

### BOBCAT MANDATORY CHECK & REPORT

Any person taking bobcat whether by hunting or trapping must comply with the mandatory check and report and pelt tag requirements by:

- Presenting the pelts of all bobcat taken to a regional office, the McCall office or official check point to obtain the appropriate pelt tag and complete a harvest report.

**If you intend to trap, please pick up a copy of the 2004-05/2005-06 trapping brochure at your local IDFG regional office.**

---

To have a pelt tagged, the pelt must be legally taken in Idaho and must be presented to a regional office, the McCall office or designated checkpoint of IDFG during normal working hours — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A fee of \$2.00 will be charged for each pelt tag. An additional \$1.50 vendor fee will be charged to each license holder when pelts are brought in for tagging.

No person shall have in possession, except during the open season and for 10 days after the close of the season, any raw bobcat pelt which does not have an official state export tag attached (either Idaho's or another state's official export tag).

No person shall sell, offer for sale, purchase, or offer to purchase any raw bobcat which does not have an official state export tag attached.

## CLOSED AREAS

Hunting, trapping, killing or molesting of furbearing animals, predatory and unprotected wildlife is prohibited in the following areas except as provided in Idaho Code Section 36-1107:

- Craters of the Moon National Monument, see page 11 for a full description.
- Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument in Twin Falls County.
- Nez Perce National Historical Park in Clearwater, Idaho and Nez Perce counties.
- That portion of Ada County:
  - Within Veterans Memorial Park.
  - Within one quarter mile of the Boise River from the New York Canal Diversion Dam downstream to the Glenwood Bridge.
  - Between State Highway 21 and the New York Canal from the New York Canal Diversion Dam downstream to the Boise City limits.
- Stanley Creek Wildlife Interpretive Area in Custer County.
- Yellowstone National Park in Fremont County.
- On any of those portions of State game preserves, State wildlife management areas, bird preserves, bird refuges and bird sanctuaries for which trapping closures have been declared by legislative or Commission action.
- All or portions of national wildlife refuges, EXCEPT as specified in federal regulations for individual refuges.

## COMMON SEASON BOUNDARIES

Whenever a stream or river forms a boundary between two different trapping areas for the same furbearer, the stream or river channel proper shall open for trapping on the earliest opening date and close on the latest closing date of the two seasons involved.

## USE OF HUNTING DOGS FOR FURBEARER, UNPROTECTED AND PREDATORY WILDLIFE

Dogs may be used to hunt or pursue ONLY the following wildlife, ONLY under the conditions listed, and ONLY if not prohibited by current rules:

To take or pursue black bear, mountain lion, bobcat, fox, raccoon, unprotected and predatory wildlife provided that the following conditions are met:

- a. There is an open take or pursuit season for the species and in the area to be hunted.
- b. Use of dogs is allowed during the take season in the area to be hunted.
- c. No firearm season for deer or elk is open in the area to be hunted (EXCEPT dogs may be used during muzzleloader hunts and controlled hunts during September and from November 25 to December 31, and raccoons may be taken or pursued during firearm seasons for deer or elk).
- d. Anyone who owns pursuit dogs or is in control of the dogs owned by another person must have a valid hound hunter permit in possession when dogs are being used to hunt or pursue fox, raccoon or bobcat, mountain lion and black bear.

## RIVER OTTER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- Pelts must be tagged by IDFG personnel at the regional office in the region in which the animal was taken within 72 hours of taking. Trappers unable to comply with the tagging requirements due to special or unique circumstances must report their harvest to the appropriate regional office or field personnel within 72 hours and make arrangements for tagging at the proper regional office. Pelts not registered or presented to IDFG personnel within 72 hours are subject to confiscation.
- River otter carcasses do not have to be turned in to IDFG, **EXCEPT** for otters harvested after the season has closed, or otters in excess of the trappers' personal quota of two. Check with the IDFG regional office for further information when reporting a harvest.
- No person shall have in possession, except during the open season and for 72 hours after the close of the season, any raw otter pelt legally harvested in Idaho which does not have an official state export tag attached.

## SEASON LIMITS:

- A maximum limit of 2 otters is allowed for any one trapper, provided the harvest quota for that region is not exceeded.

## FURBEARER TRAPPING AND HUNTING SEASONS BY REGION

If you intend to trap, please pick up a copy of the 2004-05/2005-06 trapping brochure at your local IDFG regional office.

---

### PANHANDLE REGION:

**BENEWAH, BONNER, BOUNDARY,  
KOOTENAI & SHOSHONE COUNTIES**

Badger *	July 1–June 30
Beaver	Nov 1–March 31
Bobcat *	Dec 14–Feb 16
Fox *	Oct 15–Jan 31
Marten	Nov 1–Jan 31
Mink	Nov 1–March 31
Muskrat	Nov 1–March 31
Otter ^	Nov 15–March 15
Raccoon *	July 1–June 30

---

### CLEARWATER REGION:

**CLEARWATER, IDAHO, LATAH, LEWIS &  
NEZ PERCE COUNTIES**

Badger *	July 1–June 30
Beaver	Nov 1–March 31
Bobcat *	Dec 14–Feb 16
Fox *	Oct 15–Jan 31
Marten	Nov 1–Jan 31
Mink	Nov 1–March 31
Muskrat	Nov 1–March 31
Otter ^	Nov 15–March 15
Raccoon *	July 1–June 30

#### EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

**Clearwater County:** East Fork Potlatch River drainage;  
CLOSED

**Idaho County:** Within the following drainages: Big Cr.  
upstream from Monumental Cr., Chamberlin Cr., mainstem of  
Middle Fk. Clearwater R. from Maggie Cr. upstream,  
mainstem of Lochsa R., Secesh R. above the Long Gulch  
Bridge, and mainstem of Selway R: CLOSED.

**Latah County:** CLOSED

**Nez Perce County:** All northern tributaries to the Salmon  
R. downstream from but excluding Maloney Cr., and all  
tributaries to the Snake R. below the mouth of the Salmon  
R. excluding the Clearwater River drainage: CLOSED

#### EXCEPTIONS: OTTER

Mainstem of the Clearwater R., mainstem of the Middle Fork  
of the Clearwater R., mainstem of the Snake R., from  
Lewiston upstream to Hells Canyon Dam, and the mainstem  
of the main Salmon R.: CLOSED

---

#### EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

**Custer Co:** Marsh Cr. drainage: CLOSED

**Lemhi Co:** Dahlenoga Cr. drainage: CLOSED.

#### EXCEPTIONS: OTTER

Main Salmon R. downstream from North Fork, Id.: CLOSED.

---

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping.

\* Indicates species can also be hunted.

If you intend to trap, please pick up a copy of the 2004-05/2005-06 trapping brochure at your local IDFG regional office.

## SOUTHWEST REGION:

ADA, ADAMS, BOISE, CANYON, ELMORE,  
GEM, OWYHEE, PAYETTE, VALLEY &  
WASHINGTON COUNTIES

Badger \* ..... July 1–June 30  
Beaver ..... Nov 1–March 31  
Bobcat \* ..... Dec 14–Feb 16  
Fox \* ..... July 1–June 30  
Marten ..... Nov 1–Jan 31  
Mink ..... Nov 1–March 31  
Muskrat ..... Nov 1–March 31  
Otter ^ ..... Nov 15–March 15  
Raccoon \* ..... July 1–June 30

### EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

**Ada & Boise Counties:** The Boise River WMA; CLOSED.

**Elmore County:** All public lands within the following drainages: Bear Cr. (trib. to Feather R.), Case Cr., Fall Cr. upstream from and including Meadow Cr., Clover Cr., King Hill Cr., Lime Cr., Smith Cr. upstream from Washboard Cr., Syrup Cr., Trinity Cr., Willow Cr. (trib. to S. Fk. Boise R.), and Wood Cr. (trib. to S. Fk. Boise R.), AND EXCEPT all lands within the Boise River WMA; CLOSED

**Gem County:** Squaw Cr. above the Ola Bridge; CLOSED.

**Valley County:** Within the following drainages: Big Cr. upstream from Monumental Cr., Johnson Cr. upstream from Landmark, S. Fk. Salmon R. upstream from the fish trap near the mouth of Cabin Cr., Bear Valley Cr., and Sulphur Cr.; CLOSED.

**Washington County:** Raft Creek, Dennet Creek, Wolf Creek, Trail Creek, Sumac Creek, Thorn Creek, and Rock Creek on the Rocking M Ranch Conservation easement in Unit 31; CLOSED.

### EXCEPTIONS: FOX

**Adams County:** Private lands within the Little Salmon R. drainage; CLOSED

**Valley County:** Fox may be taken only by trapping and only on National Forest and State of Idaho lands.

### EXCEPTIONS: OTTER

North Fork of the Payette R. from Cabarton Bridge downstream to Horseshoe Bend, confluence of the Middle Fork and South Fork Payette R. downstream to the confluence with the North Fork Payette R. at Banks, and Boise R. from Lucky Peak Dam to Caldwell: CLOSED

## MAGIC VALLEY REGION:

BLAINE, CAMAS, CASSIA, GOODING,  
JEROME, LINCOLN, MINIDOKA & TWIN  
FALLS COUNTIES

Badger \* ..... July 1–June 30  
Beaver ..... Nov 1–March 31  
Bobcat \* ..... Dec 14–Feb 16  
Fox \* ..... July 1–June 30  
Marten ..... Nov 1–Jan 31  
Mink ..... Nov 1–March 31  
Muskrat ..... Nov 1–March 31  
Otter ^ ..... Nov 15–March 15  
Raccoon \* ..... July 1–June 30

### EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

**Blaine County:** All public lands within the following drainages: Big Wood R., Copper Cr. (trib. to Muldoon Cr.); and all lands within the following drainages: Little Fish Cr., Hailey Cr., Sheep Cr., and Cold Spring Cr. (trib. to Little Wood R.); CLOSED

**Camas County:** All public lands within the following drainages: Big Deer Cr., Corral Cr. above Baseline Road, Elk Cr., Lime C., Little Smoky Cr., and Willow Cr.: CLOSED

**Gooding County:** All public lands within the following drainages: Black Canyon Cr., Clover Cr., and Thorn Cr.: CLOSED

**Lincoln County:** All public lands in Preacher Cr. drainage: CLOSED.

### EXCEPTIONS: MINK

**Gooding County:** Hagerman WMA, Feb 15–Feb 28.

### EXCEPTIONS: MUSKRAT

**Gooding County:** Hagerman WMA, Feb 15 – Feb 28.

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping.

\* Indicates species can also be hunted.

If you intend to trap, please pick up a copy of the 2004-05/2005-06 trapping brochure at your local IDFG regional office.

---

**SOUTHEAST REGION:**  
**BANNOCK, BEAR LAKE, BINGHAM,**  
**CARIBOU, FRANKLIN, ONEIDA & POWER**  
**COUNTIES**

Badger *	July 1–June 30
Beaver	Oct 22–April 15
Bobcat *	Dec 14–Feb 16
Fox *	July 1–June 30
Marten	Nov 1–Jan 31
Mink	Oct 22–April 15
Muskrat	Oct 22–April 15
Otter ^	Nov 1–March 15
Raccoon *	July 1–June 30

**EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER**

**Bannock County:** Cherry Cr. (trib. to Marsh Cr.), Cottonwood Cr. drainage, Dempsey Cr. above cattleguard, Mink Cr. drainage, and Gibson Jack Cr.: CLOSED

**Bear Lake County:** Pearl Cr. drainage: CLOSED

**Bingham County:** Cedar Cr. and Miner Cr.: CLOSED

**Caribou County:** Dike Lake, Toponce Cr. drainage on National Forest lands, and Pebble Cr. drainage: CLOSED

**Franklin County:** Logan R. drainage including the Beaver Cr. and White’s Cr. drainages: CLOSED.

**EXCEPTIONS: MARTEN**

**Bear Lake & Franklin Counties:** CLOSED

**EXCEPTIONS: OTTER**

Portneuf R. downstream from Lava Hot Springs.: CLOSED

**UPPER SNAKE REGION:**  
**BONNEVILLE, BUTTE, CLARK, FREMONT,**  
**JEFFERSON, MADISON & TETON**  
**COUNTIES**

Badger *	July 1–June 30
Beaver	Oct 22–April 15
Bobcat *	Dec 14–Feb 16
Fox *	July 1–June 30
Marten	Nov 1–Jan 31
Mink	Oct 22–April 15
Muskrat	Oct 22–April 15
Otter ^	Nov 1–March 15
Raccoon *	July 1–June 30

**EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER**

**Clark County:** Within the following drainages: Edie Cr., Irving Cr., Miners Cr., Three Mile Cr., West Camas Cr. upstream from the Targhee National Forest boundary and Indian Creek upstream from the Targhee National Forest boundary: CLOSED

**Teton County:** The following drainages upstream from the Targhee National Forest boundary: North Twin Creek, South Fork of Packsaddle Creek, Trail Creek, Patterson Creek, and Dry Creek including McRenolds Reservoir: CLOSED

**EXCEPTIONS: OTTER**

South Fork Snake R. from Palisades Dam to the Heise Cable, mainstem Buffalo R., mainstem Warm R. and mainstem Henry’s Fork R. from Big Springs to Del Rio Bridge at St. Anthony: CLOSED.

---

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping.

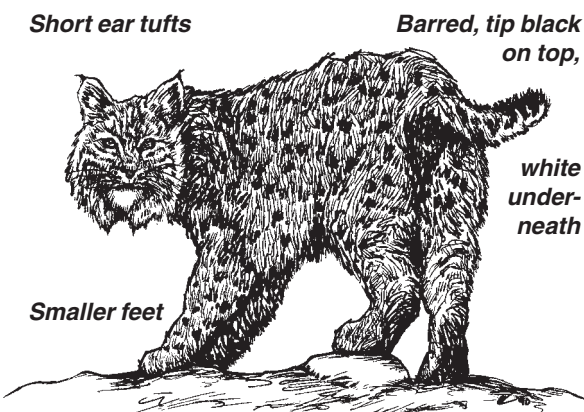
\* Indicates species can also be hunted.



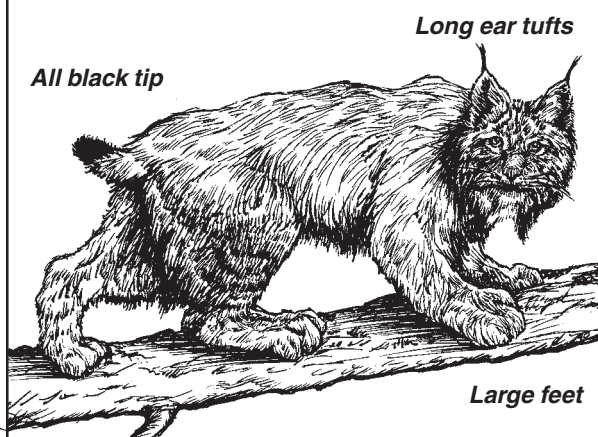
## HUNTERS

**Be sure of what you shoot.** The lynx is a threatened species which may be mistaken for a bobcat. The following comparisons are provided to help you distinguish between the two species.

### BOBCAT



### LYNX



### Bobcat and Lynx Identifying Characteristics

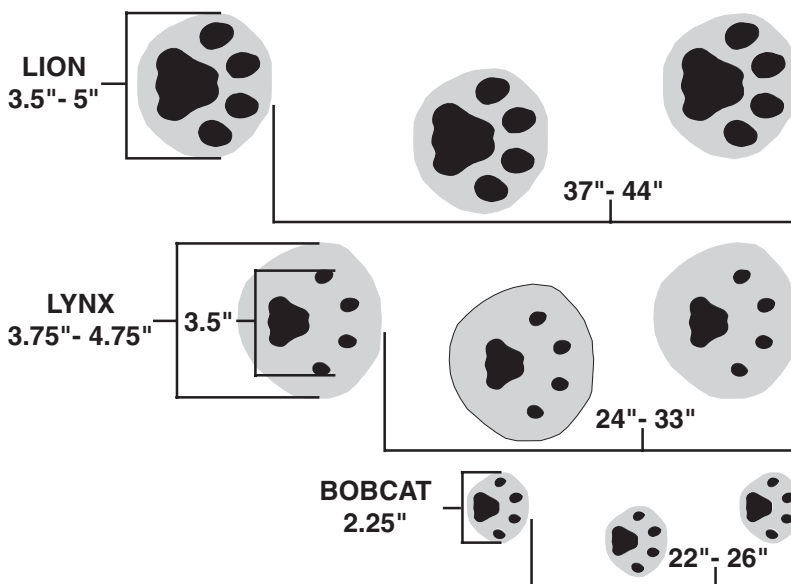
- Tail:** 1. Underside of tail is white to the tip.  
2. Usually some barring on upper side of tail with wide band at end.
- Color:** Brownish with clouding or spots over much of the upper body - usually distinct black spots on belly.
- Face:** 1. Ear tufts, if present, usually under one inch long.  
2. Lacks prominent cheek tufts.
- Feet:** Appear small, lack hair development between pads - bare like those of domestic cat.
- Size:** Appears smaller in overall size (length: 25-37 inches) (weight: 15-35 lbs.).

- Tail:** 1. Has black tip which completely encircles the end.  
2. No barring on upper side of tail between base and tip.
- Color:** Generally pale grey without distinct spotting.
- Face:** 1. Dark colored ear tufts, conspicuous, 1.5" long.  
2. Cheek tufts prominent.
- Feet:** Appear large, pads covered with woolly hair.
- Size:** Appears larger in overall size (length: 32-37 inches) (weight: 15-30 lbs.). Longer hind legs give the lynx a stooped posture.

**Note:** The tail characteristics are most reliable for making positive identification.

### Tracks in Snow and Stride Length Comparison for Mountain Lion, Lynx and Bobcat

- Mountain lion and lynx foot sizes are similar; bobcat foot is much smaller.
- Tracks are shown with shaded area representing impression of hair in the snow.
- Note track size and stride length differences between species.



Track data - Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 1999